

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 DHA-02 /112 W

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R 101705Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9443

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4334

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, US, MO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: FONMIN ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA

REF: (A) STATE 178439 (B) RABAT 4159

1. THE AMBASSADOR SAW FONMIN LARAKI AUGUST 7, THE DAY PRIOR TO THE LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO. THE AMBASSADOR MADE PRESENTATIONS FOLLOWING UP ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA DEMARCHES REPORTED IN REFTEL B.

2. KOREA: LARAKI RESPONDED THAT THE US WAS WELL AWARE OF THE GOM'S POSITION ON KOREA. HE CLAIMED THAT HE HAD BEEN THE "ONLY ONE" TO STAND UP ON KOREA AT LIMA WHEN HE SAID HE ARGUED AGAINST EXCLUDING SOUTH KOREA, WHICH REPRESENTED TWO-THIRDS OF PEOPLE ON THE PENINSULA, FROM DISCUSSIONS ON ITS OWN FUTURE. THE FONMIN REMARKED THAT THE GOM AGREED WITH OUR VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION, AND HE SPECIFICALLY SAID MOROCCO APPROVED OF THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVE FOR A FOUR POWER CONFERENCE. HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD READ THE KOREAN EXCERPTS OF THE SECRETARY'S SEATTLE SPEECH.

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3. PUERTO RICO: THE FONMIN SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS QUESTION WOULD ARISE, BUT SAID HE "FULLY UNDERSTOOD" AND "AGREED" WITH THE US' PUERTO RICO POSITION.

4. THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT IN VIEW OF (A) THE NUMBER OF MOROCCAN "ENEMIES" WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT THE COLOMBO MEETING AND (B) THE OVERRIDING CONCERN THE GOM FACES IN DEALING WITH THE SAHARA PROBLEM, HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO TAKE ANY INITIATIVES ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA. WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO KOREA, HE PROMISED TO DEFEND THE "BASIC POSITIONS" MOROCCO HAD "ALWAYS" HELD ON KOREA.

5. COMMENT: LARAKI'S RESPONSES WERE PROBABLY AS FORTH-COMING AS THEY COULD BE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE TOTAL SAHARA PREOCCUPATION PREVAILING HERE. THIS PREOCCUPATION SHOULD SERVE OUR INTERESTS IN THE CASE OF KOREA, GIVEN NORTH KOREA'S RECOGNITION OF THE SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC.
ANDERSON

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